

Message Text

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ACTION EA-09

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 DODE-00 NSAE-00 NSCE-00

SSO-00 USIE-00 INRE-00 PM-04 H-01 INR-07 L-03

NSC-05 PA-01 PRS-01 SP-02 SS-15 OMB-01 IO-13

DHA-02 /065 W

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O R 240804Z MAR 77

FM AMEMBASSY SEOUL

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 2818

INFO AMEMBASSY TOKYO

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 1 OF 2 SEOUL 2357

EO 11652: GDS

TAGS: SHUM PINT KS JA

SUBJ: MARCH 22 KOREAN "CHARTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL
SALVADTION"

REF: SEOUL 2290 (DTG 220712Z MAR 77)

1. A STATEMENT ENTITLED "CHARTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL
SALVADTION" WAS ISSUED AT A PRAYER MEETING ON MARCH 22, BEFORE
MYONGDONG COURT DECISION, IN NAMES OF TEN DISSIDENTS INCLUDING
MYONGDONG DEFENDANTS YUN PO-SON, HAM SOK-HON, AND CHONG
IL-HYONG. STATEMENT WAS READ AT PRAYER MEETING AND DISTRIBUTED
TO JOURNALISTS, ESPECIALLY FOREIGN CORRESPONDENTS, ALTHOUGH
SOME KOREAN NEWSMEN APPARENTLY ALSO RECEIVED COPIES.
STATEMENT HAS BEEN REPORTED IN JAPANESE PRESS AND STARS AND
STRIPES, BUT KOREA MEDIA IGNORED IT. TIGHT POLICE SURVEIL-
LANCE HAS SUCCESSFULLY PREVENTED CIRCULATION OF STATEMENT WITHIN
KOREA SO FAR ALTHOUGH SEVERAL EMBASSY CONTACTS ARE AWARE OF IT.

2. POLICE HAVE TAKEN NO ACTION AS YET AGAINST SIGNERS OF
STATEMENT. A SOURCE AMONG JAPANESE REPORTERS STATED THAT
HE LEARNED THAT POLICE WOULD IGNORE STATEMENT ALTHOUGH IT IS
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AN OBVIOUS VIOLATION OF EM-9. JAPAN TIMES OF WEDNESDAY,
MARCH 23, IN REPORTING DISSIDENTS' STATEMENT NOTED THAT ROKG
OFFICIALS WHEN QUESTIONED ABOUT THEIR REACTION STATED THAT SOME
NAMES ON LIST MAY HAVE BEEN FORGED. THIS COULD BE EFFORT TO
ESTABLISH RATIONALE FOR ROKG NOT PROSECUTING SIGNERS. EMBASSY
WILL REMAIN ALERT TO ROKG INTENTIONS ON THIS ISSUE.

3. INFORMAL TRANSLATION OF STATEMENT IS AS FOLLOWS:

BEGIN TEXT

A CHARTER FOR DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL SALVATION
OUR VOICES AND ACTIONS ARE VERY MUCH RESTRICTED. SINCE
NOVEMBER 1976, PARTICULARLY DURING FEBRUARY AND MARCH THIS
YEAR, RIGID POLICE CORDONS AND SURVEILLANCE HAVE BEEN APPLIED
ALL OVER THE COUNTRY, AND MANY CHURCHMEN AND DEMOCRATIC
CITIZENS OF VARIOUS CIRCLES HAVE BEEN KIDNAPPED AND CONFINED
INFORMALLY BY INTELLIGENCE AGENTS AND POLICE. THEREBY
ASSEMBLIES AND SPEECHES PLANNED FOR THE SAKE OF DEMOCRACY
HAVE BEEN COMPLETELY DISCOURAGED. THE SITUATION RATHER
DEMONSTRATES THAT THE PASSION FOR DEMOCRACY IS RISING ANEW
AMONG THE PEOPLE AT PRESENT, AND AT THE SAME TIME DESCRIBES
HOW SEVERE IS THE GOVERNMENT'S REPRESSION OF OUR STRUGGLE
FOR DEMOCRATIZATION. UNDER SUCH OPPRESSIVE CONDITIONS,
ONLY THOSE CITIZENS IN COMMUNICATION WITH EACH OTHER HASTILY
SIGNED THE CHARTER. WE HOPE THAT THIS PAPER WILL BE
DISSEMINATED WIDELY AMONG DEMOCRATIC CITIZENS, AND ALSO HOPE
THAT MANY CITIZENS WILL EXERT CLANDESTINE EFFORTS FOR
THIS PURPOSE.

1. THE DECLARATION FOR DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL SALVATION
ANNOUNCED MARCH 1 (1976) AND THE WONJU DECLARATION ANNOUNCED
JANUARY 23 (1976) ARE DECLARATIONS MADE BY ALL THE KOREAN
PEOPLE. WE ARE PROUD OF BEING TOGETHER WITH THE PEOPLE WHO
HAVE PARTICIPATED IN THE DECLARATION AT THE COURT WHERE THE
DECLARATION OF THE PEOPLE IS REPRESSED. THE APPEAL FILED
BY THE DEFENDANTS OF THE MARCH 1 DECLARATION CASE IS NOTHING
BUT AN APPEAL TO THE HISTORY OF ALL THE KOREAN PEOPLE WHO
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ASPIRE TO DEMOCRACY AND TO THE COURT OF TRUTH.

2. THE RECENT SITUATIONS AND INDICATIONS CREATED IN CONNECTION
WITH THE KOREAN PENINSULA -- THAT IS, FAILURES OF INTERNATIONAL
GOOD NEIGHBORLY RELATIONS SUCH AS ARGUMENTS OVER U.S. TROOP
WITHDRAWAL (FROM KOREA), HUMAN RIGHTS PROBLEMS, AND THE
BRIBERY SCANDAL -- HAVE BEEN SOLELY CAUSED BY THE DICTATOR-
SHIP OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT AND ITS INFRINGEMENTS UPON HUMAN
RIGHTS AND ARE THE RESPONSIBILITY OF THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT.
WE BELIEVE IT OUR HISTORICAL MISSION TO RESTORE DEMOCRACY AND THUS
SECURE GENUINE UNITY OF ALL KOREAN PEOPLE. THIS MUST BE DONE
BEFORE U.S. TROOPS ARE WITHDRAWN.

3. IN ORDER TO OVERCOME THESE HISTORIC NATIONAL CHALLENGES,
THE PRESENT GOVERNMENT SHOULD IMMEDIATELY DO THE FOLLOWING:

1) ABOLISH AND DECLARE NULL AND VOID THE YUSIN CONSTITUTION
AND EMERGENCY MEASURE;

2) COMPLETELY RESTORE THE HUMAN RIGHTS OF ALL POLITICAL
OFFENDERS AND ABOLISH THE UNDEMOCRATIC SYSTEM AND LAWS:

3) TERMINATE TORTURE, INSPECTION, REPRESSION, AND THE POLITICS
OF INTELLIGENCE;

4) GUARANTEE FREEDOM OF PRESS CAMPUS, AND RELIGION AND THE
INDEPENDENCE OF THE JUDICIARY.

5) GUARANTEE THE RIGHTS TO A DECENT LIVING FOR PEOPLE SUCH
AS WORKERS FARMERS, AND FISHERMEN;

6) SWEEP OUT INJUSTICE AND CORRUPTION, AND TAKE A GOOD
NEIGHBORLY DIPLOMATIC POSTURE WHICH IS FAR AND OPEN
TO THE PUBLIC.

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C O N F I D E N T I A L SECTION 2 OF 2 SEOUL 2357

4. WE, WHO ARE AIMING AT THE ACCOMPLISHMENT OF PEACE AND
THE COMMON GOOD OF ALL MANKIND, FIRMLY BELIEVE THAT THERE ARE
NO NATIONAL BOUNDARIES WHERE HUMAN RIGHTS AND THEIR GUARANTEE
ARE CONCERNED, THE DEMOCRATIZATION OF KOREA IS NOT ONLY THE
ROAD TO PEACE FOR THE KOREAN PENINSULA, BUT ALSO FOR THE
WHOLE WORLD. THEREFORE, IT IS OUR DUE RIGHT AND DUTY TO
JOIN TOGETHER WITH ALL THE PEOPLES OF THE WORLD WHO LOVE
FREEDOM AND PEACE IN ORDER TO EXERT EFFORTS FOR THE
ENHANCEMENT OF DEMOCRACY AND HUMAN RIGHTS FOR THE SUFFERING
KOREAN PEOPLE.

5. IT IS THE GREATEST DUTY OF ALL PEOPLE OF ALL CLASSES AND
CIRCLES TO STRUGGLE FOR DEMOCRACY, NATIONAL INDEPENDENCE,

AND SNIFICATION.

WE HEREBY APPEAL TO WORKERS, FARMERS, SALARIED EMPLOYEES,
PUBLIC OFFICIALS INTELLIGENCE AGENTS, STUDENTS, RELIGIOUS
PEOPLE, INTELLECTUALS AND SMALL AND MEDIUM MERCHANTS --
TO ALL WHOSE DIGNITY, FREEDOM, AND RIGHTS OF LIVING ARE
INFRINGED -- IMMEDIATELY TO CONFIRM THEIR ASPIRATION FOR
DEMOCRACY WITH THEIR BEST COURAGE AND CREATIVE POWER, AND
TO MAKE CLEAR THEIR ATTITUDE AS DEMOCRATIC CITIZENS. BY
THIS DOCUMENT, WE HEREBY PLEDGE THAT WE WILL EXERT EFFORTS
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FOR THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A NATION-WIDE DEMOCRATIC CITIZENS'
FEDERATION. LONG LIVE DEMOCRACY*

MARCH, 1977

SIGNED BY:

YUN PO-SON (FORMER PRESIDENT)

CHONG IL-HYONG (NATIONAL ASSEMBLYMAN, (DEPRIVED OF NA MEMBER-
SHIP DUE TO COURT CONVICTION)

HAM SOK-HON (PUBLISHER OF "VOICE OF PEOPLE" MAGAZINE) -

THE ABOVE THREE ARE DEFENDANTS IN THE CASE OF THE MARCH 1
DECLARATION FOR DEMOCRACY AND NATIONAL SALVATION.

CHONG KU-YONG (FORMER CHAIRMAN OF THE RULING DEMOCRATIC
REPUBLICAN PARTY; PRESIDENT PAK CHONG-HUI'S CONSEL UNTIL 1974)

YUN, HYONG-JUNG (CATHOLIC PRIEST)

CH'ON KWAN-U (FORMER EDITOR-IN-CHIEF OF THE TONGA ILBO)

YANG IL-TONG (PRESIENT OF DEMOCRATIC UNIFICATION PARTY, THE
SECOND OPPOSITION POLITICAL PARTY)

CHI HAK-SUN (CATHOLIC BISHOP)

PAK HYONG-GYU (MINISTER OF SEOUL CHEIL CHURCH)

CHO HWA-SUN (WOMAN MINISTER OF SEOUL AREA URBAN INDUSTRIAL
MISSION)

END TEXT.

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Message Attributes

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